



ORIGINAL

# La Paz County Board

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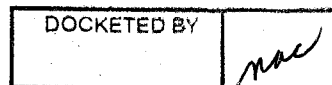
Gene Fisher - District 1 Donna J. Hale - Clerk of the Board  
Clifford Edey - District 2 Charles E. Wilson - County Administrator  
Jay W. Howe - District 3 Arizona Corporation Commission

March 14, 2002

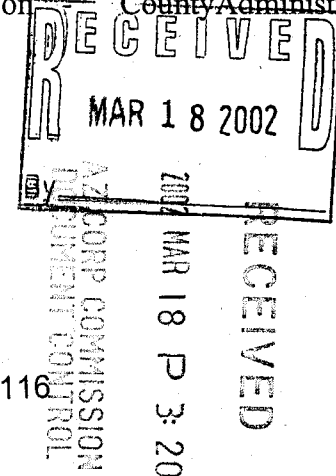
DOCKETED

MAR 18 2002

Chairman Bill Mundell  
Commissioner Jim Irvin  
Commissioner Marc Spitzer  
Arizona Corporation Commissioners  
1200 West Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007



Docket No. L-00000AA-01-0116  
Case No. 116



Dear Commissioners:

Please accept this letter as La Paz County's expression of support for Allegheny Energy Supply's application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility. We have been working very closely with Allegheny for almost two years relating to their site in La Paz County. Allegheny has already proven to have positive impacts on our county, its citizens and the local communities.

Allegheny has an excellent reputation and credibility in the utility industry. We believe the La Paz Generating Facility represents a positive economic and developmental impact for La Paz County. The project will create hundreds of jobs initially and approximately 40 permanent jobs once construction is completed. The ASU study reflects substantial spending impacts associated with this plant's construction as well as state and local tax revenues amounting to \$17.5 million per year. That's good news for the State and for La Paz County.

Allegheny has selected a site that will minimize the effects on any natural resources. The site also provides minimal impact to neighbors as it is located quite a distance from even the smallest community. The addition of the power plant will bring much needed infrastructure to the area, which is currently almost non-existent. Allegheny's development of this site may well attract new investments to La Paz County.

As we have previously stated in our support of this project, our long term goal for the residents of La Paz County is to provide a stable tax base and an atmosphere conducive to economic development. Our association with Allegheny is one which will further these goals and we are extremely pleased that Allegheny Energy has selected La Paz County for their first electric generating facility in the state of Arizona.

We hope you will approve Allegheny's application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility as it is of great importance to our community. There are numerous positive attributes in having Allegheny Energy as our neighbor as well as being an enormous boost to our local economy.

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If you should have any additional questions of us, we anticipate being in attendance at your hearing scheduled for March 21, 2002.

Thank you for your time and attention.

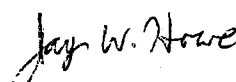
Respectfully submitted,



Gene Fisher, Chairman



Clifford Edey, Vice Chairman



Jay W. Howe, Member

/djh